

SECRET

R 131858Z APR 80

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON 8525

BT

EZ1:

S E C R E T STATE 098132

EZ2:

E.O. 12065: RDS-2 4/11/00 (SPIERS, RONALD I.)

AGS: PINR, XF, ZP

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL FBIS STAFFING

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT

2. NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTEREST IN IMPROVING INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION OF THE MUSLIM WORLD, PARTICULARLY THE "ARC OF CRISIS" AREA OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHWEST ASIA, HAS GENERATED ADDITIONAL TASKING OF FBIS (FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE) OPEN SOURCE COLLECTION ACTIVITIES IN THAT AREA. CONGRESS HAS SUPPORTED THIS WITH A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION.

3. PART OF THE FBIS PLAN IS TO ESTABLISH A SMALL TECHNICAL UNIT IN ISLAMABAD THAT WOULD RECORD RADIO BROADCASTS AND FEED THEM VIA COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATIONS LINES TO THE FBIS BUREAU AT CAVERSHAM, UK, WHERE THE MATERIAL WOULD BE TRANSLATED. ANOTHER PART OF THE PLAN WOULD BE TO WRITE AN FBIS MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHWEST ASIA ROUNDUP--A DAILY REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRANSLATED MATERIAL ON THE AREA BASED ON MONITORED MATERIAL AND OTHER WORKING PAPERS AVAILABLE IN THE LONDON BUREAU. TO ACCOMPLISH ALL THIS, FBIS WILL NEED TO ASSIGN TWO U.S. STAFF POSITIONS (EDITORS) AND NINE ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NATIONAL POSITIONS (SIX MONITORS, TWO ASSOCIATE EDITORS AND A TELETYPEIST) TO ITS LONDON BUREAU.

4. IN VIEW OF THE INCREASED REPORTING ON THE MUSLIM WORLD DESIRED BY VARIOUS AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EARLY COMMENT ON THIS PROPOSAL. CHRISTOPHER

NNNN

NNDD

State Dept. review completed

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